(*b*) The question of appointing one more Malayalam-knowing pandit will be considered when a suitable vacancy arises.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know the name of the Malayalam-knowing pandits?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): This question was answered in reply to a question put forward by the member himself at the session of the Council dated 22nd November, 1922 [*vide* question No. 39 *b*.]

Acting Clerks and Copyists in Revenue Offices.

4. MR. A GOVINDA MENON (*Alangad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the action taken by them in the case of those copyists and clerks who had acting service in the revenue offices of the State for periods ranging from two to five or six years and who were disbanded at the time of the reorganisation of the Revenue Department;

(*b*) whether they have issued any instructions to the heads of offices in the Revenue Department to the effect that, after providing for all the permanent copyists and clerks declared supernumeraries at the recent reorganisation of the department, they should provide for the copyists and clerks who had acting service at the time of the said reorganisation;

(*c*) whether, if such instructions have been issued, they have any information as to the extent to which such instructions have been carried out by the heads of offices in the Revenue Department; and

(*d*) whether they will furnish this House with a castewar list of the copyists and clerks appointed in the several revenue offices of the Kottayam Division since the reorganisation, noting the number of those who were declared supernumeraries at the time of the reorganisation or had put in acting service at that time?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Government have issued a circular that, in filling up vacancies, permanent and temporary, that arise after the supernumerary hands are fully provided for, all heads of departments and offices should give preference—each in his own department—to the *sub. pro tem.* and acting men who were thrown out of employment as the result of the adjustment of supernumeraries in existing permanent vacancies, provided that they are qualified under the Public Service Notification.

(*b*) Government have not issued any such separate instructions; but the Land Revenue Commissioner has issued such an order to the officers under him.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

(*d*) A castewar list has been called for and it will be laid on the table when received.

Rules for the Erection of Educational Buildings.

5. MR. A. GOVINDA MENON (*Alangad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

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[Mr. A. Hoogewerf.]

(*a*) whether they are aware that the rules regulating the construction of school buildings are not in accordance with those in force in the advanced countries of the West; and

(*b*) whether, in view of the above fact, they would appoint a small committee to revise those rules in accordance with the needs and requirements of this country?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) They are aware that there are some differences in the rules due to difference in conditions.

(*b*) In the opinion of the Government, the existing rules are not unsuited to the requirements of the country and there is no need for the appointment of a committee to revise the rules.

Smuggling through the Arukutty Chowkey.

6. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(1) whether it is a fact that a consignment of about 40 casks of cocoanut oil valued at Rs. 15,000, which was attempted to be smuggled through the Arukutty chowkey, was seized by the Inspector and that the Excise Commissioner ordered the immediate release of the same;

(2) whether the alleged action of the Excise Commissioner was in accordance with the Customs Regulation;

(3) whether any enquiry was held, and, if so, with what result;

(4) what the nature of the enquiry was and who held it;

(5) how the case was finally decided; and

(6) whether any fine was imposed, and, if so, whether it has been recovered?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to place the papers connected with the above case on the table?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): A report on the subject has been received from the Excise Commissioner and it is under the consideration of Government.

Smuggling of Oil.

7. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): (*a*) Is it a fact that a large consignment of oil was seized at the Arukutty chowkey recently, that the Assistant Commissioner drew up a *mahazar*, and that, before the report reached the Excise Commissioner, the latter ordered the release of the consignment?

(*b*) If so, did the Excise Commissioner act in conformity with the Regulation in having ordered the release?

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